

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 12911 090705Z

21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AGR-20 EB-11 AID-20 COME-00 FRB-03 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-14

SWF-02 DRC-01 /191 W

----- 015876

R 090617Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5796

UNCLAS BANGKOK 12911

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJ: EASING OF DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN NORTHEAST

REF: BANGKOK 11782

1. ENGLISH LANGUAGE "NATION" AUGUST 9 GAVE NESDB (NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD) AS SOURCE FOR STATEMENT THAT RICE PRODUCTION IN NORTHEAST WOULD BE DOWN 15 PERCENT BECAUSE OF DROUGHT, BASED ON CURRENT ESTIMATES.

2. DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY THALOENG IN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SEVERAL DAYS PREVIOUSLY WAS REPORTED BY PRESS AS STATING THAT DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN NORTHEAST HAD EASED CONSIDERABLY AND THAT POTENTIALLY CRITICAL PROBLEM WAS OVER. IMPROVED OUTLOOK THE RESULT OF NATURAL RAIN PLUS SUCCESSFUL CLOUD SEEDING OPERATIONS.

3. CHIEF OF FOREIGN TRADE DEPARTMENT IN MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, WHO HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DOMESTIC AND EXPORT SALES OF RICE, TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER AUGUST 8 THAT RAIN HAD FALLEN IN NORTHEAST BUT NOT YET IN SUFFICIENT AMOUNT TO ASSURE
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A GOOD CROP. ADDED THAT A CURRENT PROBLEM NATIONWIDE WAS

PROSPECT OF A TOO LOW FARM GATE PRICE FOR SECOND CROP OF
RICE NOW BEING HARVESTED.

4. COMMENT: BASED ON EXPERIENCE FROM 1973 CROP YEAR,
RTG OFFICIALS NOT WILLING TO MAKE FIRM ESTIMATES ABOUT
RICE CROP UNTIL AROUND OCTOBER. EVEN IF ADEQUATE RAIN
FALLS IN THE NORTHEAST, THE CROP WILL BE LATE BECAUSE OF
THE DELAYS IN PLANTING CAUSED BY THE DROUGHT.
KINTNER

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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